

Message Text

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41-S

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C O N F I D E N T I A L KINSHASA 8225

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR UN CG

SUBJECT: DISCUSSION WITH FOREIGN MINISTER UMBA

REF: STATE 192433, GENEVA 5113, STATE 202939, STATE 21088

1. FOREIGN MINISTER UMBA-DI-LUTETE AND I TALKED FOR ALMOST AN HOUR LATE SEP 25. IT WAS NOT AN ORDERLY DISCUSSION BUT FOR BETTER OR WORSE I MADE MY POINTS AND HE MADE HIS. HE WILL TALK WITH PRESIDENT MOBUTU PRIOR TO LEAVING FOR UNGA. NEEDLESS TO SAY, WHAT ZAIRE DOES IN NEW YORK AND ELSEWHERE, E.G., UNESCO, WILL DEPEND ON PRESIDENT'S INSTRUCTIONS AND PRESIDENT'S INSTRUCTIONS MAY WELL DEPEND ON WHAT US DOES ABOUT PENDING REQUESTS FROM BOBUTU.
2. GOOD NEWS: WHILE KOREAN AND PRG ISSUES ONLY CAME UP IN PASSING, GOZ WILL PROBABLY BE OK. UMBA SAID NORTH KOREANS HAD PRESENTED THEIR RESOLUTION TO HIM AND ASKED FOR SUPPORT BUT HE HAD GONE NO FURTHER THAN TO PROMISE TO THINK ABOUT IT. HE SAID IN CONNECTION WITH CURRENT MEETING AT LUCERNE SPONSORED BY ICRC ZIRE HAD VOTED AGAINST SEATING PRG REPS (BUT SEE GENEVA 5113).

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3. BAD NEWS MAYBE: GRUNK. I OPENED SUBSTANTIVE

DISCUSSION DRAWING ON STATE 192433 AND CITING PARTICULAR IMPORTANCE SECRETARY KISSINGER PERSONALLY ATTACHED TO ISSUE. BEFORE I COULD FINISH MAKING MAIN ARGUMENTS, UMBA INTERRUPTED TO SAY HE UNDERSTOOD OUR POINT OF VIEW BUT THAT "SPEAKING FRANKLY" HE HAD TO SAY HE WAS DISAPPOINTED AND HE THOUGHT HIS PRESIDENT WAS DISAPPOINTED IN RESULTS OF HIS AUGUST 12 MEETING WITH SECRETARY KISSINGER.

4. DURING ENSUING DISCUSSION I FOUND OPENING TO SAY I ALSO HAD INSTRUCTIONS (STATE 202939) TO INDICATE OUR SUPPORT FOR SPINOLA AND PORTUGAL IN THEIR NEW AFRICAN POLICIES AND THAT WE HOPED AFRICAN STATES WOULD NOT ATTACK PORTUGAL IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY. I ASSUMED IN LIGHT MOBUTU-SPINOLA MEETING THAT ZAIRE WOULD NOT WISH TO EMBARRASS GENERAL SPINOLA. HE THOUGHT NOT, BUT HE WAS LESS DEFINITE ABOUT THIS THAN I HAD ANTICIPATED. HE ASKED IF WE THOUGHT ANY AFRICAN STATES OTHER THAN GUINEA WOULD BE PRESSING PORTUGAL. I TOLD HIM WE WEREN'T CERTAIN BUT THERE WERE SOME INDICATIONS THAT SOME OTHERS DID NOT WISH TO RELAX.

5. WHEN I WAS FINALLY ABLE TO GET TO UNESCO SITUATION (STATE 21088) TO ARGUE THAT A SUBSIDIARY ORGAN SHOULD AT LEAST DEFER POLITICAL QUESTION OF GRUNK UNTIL GENERAL ASSEMBLY HAD CONSIDERED ISSUE, HE REPLIED UNESCO WAS "FALSE PROBLEM" AND THAT I SHOULDN'T WASTE TIME WITH SUCH ARGUMENTS. HE WOULD TELL ME ABOUT AFRICAN MENTALITY. FOR HIM, IT WAS IMPORTANT TO KNOW THAT US AND HIS FRIEND KISSINGER OPPOSED SEATING SIHANOUK REGIME. BUT ARGUMENTS RE SEA STABILITY AND PRECEDENTS IN UN I HAD ADVANCED WERE IRRELEVANT. ZAIRE WOULD ACT IN ACCORDANCE WITH ITS INTERESTS AND EVERY ISSUE IN EVERY UN ORGAN AND ELSEWHERE WOULD BE WEIGHED AS A "POLITICAL ISSUE." HE CITED EXCLUSION OF RHODESIA AND SOUTH AFRICA FROM INTERNATIONAL SPORTS COMPETITIONS. HE ALSO CITED OUR ACTION VIS-A-VIS PEKING AND TAIWAN. I DENIED THIS WAS PRECEDENT FOR CAMBODIA SINCE PEKING CLEARLY CONTROLLED CHINA. HE INSISTED FOR HIM IT CAME DOWN TO QUESTION OF FRIENDSHIP. WERE WE STILL RELIABLE FRIEND OF ZAIRE? IN THAT CASE, I
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SAID, I WAS CONFIDENT ZAIRE WOULD VOTE FOR GKR IN PARIS AND AT LEAST BE ABSENT IN NEW YORK.

6. UMBA SAID AFTER DISCUSSING ISSUES WITH PRESIDENT, HE WOULD LIKE TO HEAR MORE FROM US IN NEW YORK. HE WONDERED IF SECRETARY KISSINGER, DESPITE "WEIGHT OF WORLD ON HIS SHOULDERS" MIGHT HAVE TIME TO SEE HIM. FOR THAT, HE WOULD BE PREPARED TO GO TO WASHINGTON.

7. I SAID THAT AS HE HAD NOTED SECRETARY'S TIME WAS LIMITED. I KNEW ASSISTANT SECRETARY EASUM HAD HAD DETAILED DISCUSSIONS WITH SOME AFRICAN FOREIGN MINISTERS IN NEW YORK. HE SAID HE WOULD BE GLAD TO MEET EASUM WHOM HE REMEMBERED WELL AS HAVING TAKEN INITIATIVE WITH HIM LAST YEAR BUT HE HOPED SECRETARY KISSINGER COULD PERSONALLY ANSWER OUTSTANDING QUESTIONS. HE PLANS ARRIVE NEW YORK VIA GENEVA AND PARIS SEP 30 AND RETURN KINSHASA ABOUT OCT 10.
HINTON

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